

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

PREMATURE FINAL REJECTION

The final rejection of the application is premature in that it is based on a reference (Ramage) not previously used to reject the claims. The reference was used in rejection of all claims in the application. Applicant should be able to modify claims in response to any newly applied reference where the new reference is applied to claims that were not changed in scope. Therefore, the applicant's request that the prosecution status of the application be changed to non-final.

PRIOR ART REJECTIONS

In the present application, portions of lines in a display of a page are reduced in size to compensate for magnification of other portions of the same lines in the page to maintain the integrity and/or configuration of the page. Magnified and reduced portions are presented by using varying shades of color and a pattern densities which correspond to the magnification or reduction ratios in the display. The portions that have been magnified and/or reduced are presented by varying color intensity; portions reduced in size are displayed with a deep hue in color to indicate that the portion is compressed and a magnified portion is displayed with a lighter color to indicate its expansion. As a result, changes in color intensity, in correspondence to the magnification or reduction ratio distinguish such changed portions from one another and from unchanged portions. Moreover, images of the display can be presented with a specification corresponding to each magnification or

reduction ratio by linking the display with a movement of a pointing device, thus realizing a very easy-to-operate user interface.

I. Rejection Under 35 USC 102(e)

Claims 5, 6, 9, 10 and 12 are rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Gould (6,219,052) in view of Ramage (4,790,028).

It is assumed that the Examiner intended to reject claims 5, 6, 9 and 12 under 35 USC 103 and their rejection here under 35 USC 102(e) was unintentional. Therefore in responding to the rejection of claims 5, 6, 9, 10 and 11 applicant's attorney will treat the rejection of these as a rejection under 35 USC 103.

As pointed out above, the present application discloses displaying magnified and reduced portions of a diagram differently from each other and from unchanged portions of the diagram. The Examiner acknowledges Gould, and its description in the specification, does not teach displaying portions distinctly in three separate categories. As pointed out previously in Figure 11 of Gould, portions are shown at most in only two different categories; the enlarged salient portions 61 and all other portions all of which have been shrunk or condensed. In acknowledging the fact that Gould does not disclose the representation of unchanged portions of the diagram, the Examiner relies on the teaching of the Ramage patent. The teachings of the Ramage and Gould patents are incompatible with one another. In expanding certain lines of text shown in Figure 11 of Gould, other lines of text are compressed so that the space taken up by the display subject matter is not expanded. In Ramage, the unchanged portions of the text remain the same and space is made for

the expanded portion by distortion. In combining the teachings of Gould and Ramage the advantage of Gould would be eliminated since the space taken up by the compressed lines would not be reduced to make space for the expanded lines in the combination.

As pointed out previously, claims 5, 6, 9, 10 and 12 can all be distinguished from the Gould reference. Independent claims 5 and 9 both call for means or software “displaying each portion of the diagram”... “so that the pattern densities of different portions of the diagram are characterized differently from each other and from unchanged portions of the diagram” (emphasis added). Since all portions are displayed in Figure 11 of Gould as either expanded or shrunk, the expanded or shrunk portions of the diagram are not displayed differently from unchanged portions since there are no unchanged portions in the display.

It would not be obvious to those skilled in the art to combine the teachings of Ramage with Gould since, as pointed out above, the advantages attributed to the Gould invention would not occur in the combination.

Dependent claims 6, 10 and 12 further distinguish from the Gould patent in that they add further structure to the unobvious combinations recited in claims 5 and 9. For instance, claims 6 and 12 call for a scale indicating the size of the diagram as well as the portions of lines of the diagram. The scroll bar of Gould does not distinguish between expanded, reduced and unchanged portions of the same line.

II. **Rejections Under 35 USC 103(a)**

A. Claim 1 is rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Gould patent (6,219,052) in view of Masushi JP publication 11-109945 further in view of Ramage (4,790,028).

As pointed out above, only two categories of image portions are displayed at one time in Figure 11 of Gould and the teaching of the Ramage patent is incompatible with the Gould teaching for the reasons given above and would not be obvious to combine the two teachings for that reason. As for the abstract of Masushi, it appears that only one power of magnification is displayed at one time and that the level of magnification is not distinguished by a change in the color of the objects magnified but by a change in the color of a frame surrounding the object. Since neither reference of the combination teaches displaying portions of a diagram in three different categories of expansion, it would not be obvious to combine the teaching of the two references to teach such displaying of portions in three different categories. Further since in Masashi different portions of the diagram are not changed in color with changes in magnification, it would not be obvious to display diagram portions in different colors depending on its magnification or reduction since that is not disclosed in either reference.

Claim 1 is patentable over the prior art for the reasons given above. It, like claims 5 and 9, calls for displaying the magnified and reduced portions differently from the unchanged portions of the diagram. Further it calls for coloring the expanded diagram and the accompanying scale. Since none of the applied

references discloses or suggests either of the above factors, the claimed subject matter would not be obvious to those skilled in the art.

B. Claims 7 and 11 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gould and Ramage as applied to claim 1 (5) above in view of Sakuma et al. (5,323,173).

As for the Gould and Ramage patent combination, the applicant's comments with respect to independent claims 1, 5 and 9 apply equally well to dependent claims 7 and 11. Therefore claims 7 and 11 are patentable over the prior art for the reasons given above with respect to claims 1, 5 and 9.

C. Claims 13 and 14 are rejected under 35 USC 103 as being unpatentable over the combination of the Gould, Masushi and Ramage further in view of the Smith patent (5,737,507).

As pointed out with respect to claim 1 in section B above, the combination of Gould, Masushi and Ramage is unobvious to those skilled in the art and fails to disclose certain factors claimed in claim 1. Claims 13 and 14 are patentable over the prior art for the same reasons as claim 1. Further, nothing in the Smith patent discloses using the pointer to change the shade of color which results from expanding a display area, as called for in claim 1.

D. Claims 15 and 18 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gould and Ramage in view of Smith.

Claims 15 and 18 are patentable over Gould and Smith for reasons given above in sections A and C.

E. Claims 16 and 19 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gould (and Ramage?) with respect to claims 5 and 9.


As pointed out previously, Gould does not anticipate the subject matter of claims 6 and 9. In addition, claims 16 and 19 distinguish over the Gould and Ramage references for the reasons given with respect to claims 5 and 9 in section A. Further, the recited combination of a colored scale indicating the expanded or contracted state of segments together with numbers indicating the size of the same segments when not expanded or contracted as claimed in these claims is not shown in the prior art nor is it notoriously old. For these reasons, claims 16 and 19 are patentable over the prior art.

F. Claims 17 and 20 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gould, Ramage and Smith in view of Kojiima.

Claims 17 and 20 are patentable over the Gould and Smith references for reasons given in claim 1, 5 and 16. Nothing in Kajiima adds anything in the combination of Ramage, Smith and Gould. Further, there is distortion in the method of the Ramage patent (see column 2, lines 46 to 51 of Ramage). This is opposed to only increasing and reducing character size in the area of the magnified portion and in areas around that portion, as claimed in claims 17 and 20. For these reasons, both claims 17 and 20 are patentable over the combination cited in this section F.

For these and other reasons, the application is in condition for allowance and it is respectfully requested that it be reexamined, allowed and passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,


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